REMARKS

The Office Action dated December 23, 2005, has been received and carefully considered. In this response, claims 21 and 23-29 have been amended, and claim 22 has been cancelled without prejudice. Entry of the amendments to claims 21 and 23-29, and the cancellation of claim 22 without prejudice is respectfully requested. Reconsideration of the outstanding objections/rejections in the present application is also respectfully requested based on the following remarks.

I.   THE ALLOWABILITY OF CLAIMS 28 AND 29

Applicant notes with appreciation the indication on page 5 of the Office Action that claims 28 and 29 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. However, Applicants have opted to defer rewriting the above-identified claims in independent form pending consideration of the arguments presented below with respect to the rejected claims.

II. THE INDEFINITENESS REJECTION OF CLAIMS 21 AND 22

On page 2 of the Office Action, claims 21 and 22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly

claim the invention. This rejection is hereby respectfully traversed with amendment.

The Examiner asserts that claims 21 and 22 omit essential structural cooperative relationships of elements.

Claims 21 and 22 have been amended to address the Examiners concerns.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully requested that the aforementioned indefiniteness rejection of claims 21 and 22 be withdrawn.

III. THE DOUBLE-PATENTING REJECTION OF CLAIMS 21-27

On page 3 of the Office Action, claims 21-27 were rejected on the ground of non-statutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claim 14 of U.S. Patent No. 6,775,328. This rejection is hereby respectfully traversed with the filing of the accompanying terminal disclaimer.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully requested that the aforementioned double patenting rejection of claims 21-27 be withdrawn.

IV. THE DOUBLE-PATENTING REJECTION OF CLAIMS 21-25

On page 3 of the Office Action, claims 21-25 were provisionally rejected on the ground of non-statutory

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obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claim 14 of co-pending U.S. Patent Application No. 10/814,625. This rejection is hereby respectfully traversed.

The present patent application is U.S. Patent Application No. 10/814,625, and claim 14 of the present application has been cancelled without prejudice. Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that the present patent application cannot be unpatentable over its own cancelled claim.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully requested that the aforementioned double patenting rejection of claims 21-25 be withdrawn.

V.   THE ANTICIPATION REJECTION OF CLAIMS 21-23

On pages 4-5 of the Office Action, claims 21-23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Takla (U.S. Patent No. 6,044,123). This rejection is hereby respectfully traversed with amendment.

Regarding claim 1, the Examiner asserts that Takla discloses a circuit comprising: an output driver (220); a data receiver (262); a clock receiver (inherent) for receiving a clock signal; and a calibration path (214, 262, MUX1, 220) selectively configurable to couple one of the data receiver and

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the clock receiver to the output driver based at least in part upon the clock signal.

However, it is respectfully submitted that Takla fails to disclose, or even suggest, a circuit comprising: an output driver; a data receiver; a clock receiver <u>to receive at least one first clock signal having an embedded command and to output a second clock signal having the embedded command in response to receiving the first clock signal</u>; and a calibration path selectively configurable to couple an output of a selected one of the data receiver and the clock receiver to an input of the output driver <u>based at least in part upon the embedded command of the clock signal</u>, as presently claimed. Specifically, Takla fails to disclose, or even suggest, a clock receiver <u>to receive at least one first clock signal having an embedded command and to output a second clock signal having the embedded command in response to receiving the first clock signal</u>, as presently claimed. The Examiner asserts that Takla discloses such a feature by disclosing that data signal (214) comprises an embedded command comprising a system pattern. However, Takla does not disclose anything of the sort. In contrast, Takla merely discloses a data signal (214) that includes embedded clock signal information, which reflects a clock signal with which the data signal (214) is clocked (see column 3, line 66,

to column 4, line 3). Such clock signal information is in no way an <u>embedded command</u> of a clock signal. And the data signal (214) is clearly not a clock signal. Furthermore, the system pattern referred to by the Examiner is not even associated with the data signal (214), but rather is associated with recovered data, which is data that is clocked by the recovered clock signal (238). This arrangement clearly fails to disclose, or even suggest, a clock receiver <u>to receive at least one first clock signal having an embedded command and to output a second clock signal having the embedded command in response to receiving the first clock signal</u>, as presently claimed.

Takla also fails to disclose, or even suggest, a calibration path selectively configurable to couple an output of a selected one of the data receiver and the clock receiver to an input of the output driver <u>based at least in part upon the embedded command of the clock signal</u>, as presently claimed. The Examiner asserts that Takla discloses such a feature by disclosing that data signal (214) comprises an embedded command comprising a system pattern, and that a path (214, 262, MUX1, 220) selectively couples one of a first receiver (262) and a second receiver (inherent) to an output driver 220 based at least in part upon the system pattern. However, as discussed above, Takla does not disclose anything of the sort. In

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contrast, Takla merely discloses a data signal (214) that includes embedded clock signal information, which reflects a clock signal with which the data signal (214) is clocked (see column 3, line 66, to column 4, line 3). Such clock signal information is in no way an embedded command of a clock signal. And the data signal (214) is clearly not a clock signal. Furthermore, the system pattern referred to by the Examiner is not even associated with the data signal (214), but rather is associated with recovered data, which is data that is clocked by the recovered clock signal (238). This arrangement clearly fails to disclose, or even suggest, a calibration path selectively configurable to couple an output of a selected one of the data receiver and the clock receiver to an input of the output driver based at least in part upon the embedded command of the clock signal, as presently claimed.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that Takla fails to disclose, or even suggest, the claimed invention. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claim 21 should be allowable.

At this point it should be noted that claim 21 has been amended to substantially incorporate the limitations of claim 22. Thus, claim 22 has been cancelled without prejudice and

claims 23-29 have been amended to provide proper antecedent basis and more clearly recite the claimed invention.

Claim 23 is now dependent upon independent claim 21. Thus, since independent claim 21 should be allowable as discussed above, claim 23 should also be allowable at least by virtue of its dependency on independent claim 21. Moreover, claim 23 recites additional features which are not disclosed, or even suggested, by the cited references taken either alone or in combination.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully requested that the aforementioned anticipation rejection of claims 21-23 be withdrawn.

VI. CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance, and an early indication of the same is courteously solicited. The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned by telephone at the below listed telephone number, in order to expedite resolution of any issues and to expedite passage of the present application to issue, if any comments, questions, or suggestions arise in connection with the present application.
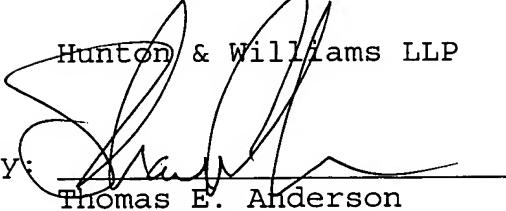
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To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR § 1.136 is hereby made.

Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 50-0206, and please credit any excess fees to the same deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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By: _____

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